

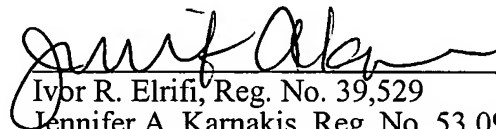
REMARKS

Applicants are filing this Amendment concurrently with a Response to the October 17, 2003 Restriction Requirement in which Applicants have elected the invention of Group II (claims 5-14), drawn to nucleic acids and vectors/cells comprising same. Applicants have further elected the invention of Group Q, drawn to the claimed inventions as they recite SEQ ID NOS: 33 and 34. The pending claims have been amended herein solely to delete and/or cancel the subject matter of the non-elected inventions, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by the claim amendments presented herein.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit, that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding this amendment and/or these remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,


Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Jennifer A. Karnakis, Reg. No. 53,097
Attorneys for Applicants
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Tel: (617) 542-6000
Fax: (617) 542-2241
Customer No.: 30623